

Message Text

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TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 071959 TOSEC 030209

FOR CARTER FROM S/PRS

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:OVIP, SOPN (VANCE, CYRUS R.)

SUBJECT: TRAVELING PRESS SUMMARY, FRIDAY MORNING, 4/1/77

NO. 18

NEWSPAPERS

NEW YORK TIMES

FROM LONDON AND BONN;NO BYLINE

HEADLINE: VANCE ASSURES TWO ALLIES THAT DETENTE IS
STILL ALIVE

LEAD FROM LONDON: SECSTATE ASSURED US ALLIES IN WEST
;R;ANY AND BRITAIN TODAY THAT DETENTE WITH THE SOVIET
UNION WAS STILL ALIVE DESPITE THE FAILURE TO MAKE PROGRESS
IN NEGOTIATIONS FOR A TREATY LIMITING STRATEGIC ARMS.
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OTHER POINTS:

--SCHMIDT SEEMED TO SUPPORT THE VIEW THAT MOSCOW TALKS
HAD GONE BETTER THAN MANY BELIEVED

--SCHMIDT SEEMED PLEASED BY AGREEMENT TO SET UP NINE
WORKING GROUPS

--SCHMIDT SAID BASIC INTERESTS OF WEST AND SOVIETS
INSPIRE THEIR STRONG DESIRE FOR SALT AGREEMENT; PERHAPS

ONE SHOULD NOT EXPECT TANGIBLE RESULTS AT FIRST MEETING

--SECRETARY SAID US PROPOSAL FOR REDUCTION IN OVERALL STRATEGIC FORCE LEVEL WAS "VERY FAIR" AND NOT INEQUITABLE, AS DESCRIBED BY BREZHNEV

--ON FLIGHT FROM MOSCOW,REPORTERS WERE TOLD OF ADDITIONAL AGREEMENTS ON SPACE COOPERATION, EMBASSY CONSTRUCTION, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND HOLDING OF COMMISSION MEETINGS

--US OFFICIALS SAID SOVIETS WERE TOLD NONDISCRIMINATORY TRADE AGREEMENT DEPENDED ON CONGRESS MOOD,WHICH IN TURN DEPENDED ON POSITIVE RESULTS IN ARMS CONTROL ETC.

LEAD FROM BONN: SECSTATE VANCE AND CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT SPENT MOST OF THEIR TIME TOGETHER ON THE MOSCOW TALKS AND WORLD ECONOMIC PROBLEMS,GIVING VIRTUALLY NO ATTENTION TO THE MAIN SOURCE OF FRICTION BETWEEN THE US AND WEST GERMANY

-- SCHMIDT SAID HE DOUBTED PRESIDENT'S SUPPORT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IN SOVIET HAD COMPLICATED THE SALT DISCUSSIONS

-SCHMIDT ALSO SAID FRG HAD ARTICULATED ITS CONCERN"A BIT MORE CAREFULLY"

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GWERTZMAN FROM BONN

HEADLINE: REPORTERS NOTEBOOK TWO VIEWS OF MOSCOW TALKS

LEAD; AS SECSTATE VANCE MAKES HIS WAY HOME FROM MOSCOW, HE IS FACING A CREDIBILITY PROBLEM OF THE KIND THAT AFFLICTED MANY OF HIS PREDECESSORS

OTHER POINTS:

-- REPORTERS DO NOT ACCEPT SECRETARY'S HOPEFUL VIEW AND HAVE BEEN DWELLING ON WORRISOME ASPECTS OF KREMLIN TALKS, NOTABLY FAILURE TO MOVE ON SALT

-- SECRETARY HAS NOT BEEN ACCUSED OF CONCEALING TRUTH, BUT,IF ANYTHING,HAS WON ADMIRATION FOR WILLINGNESS TO SPEAK FREQUENTLY ON THE RECORD--IN CONTRAST TO HIS PREDECESSOR

--SOURCE OF DIFFERING ASSESSMENTS IS DIVERGENT PERCEPTIONS

--SECRETARY'S VIEW IS THAT THE MOSCOW SETBACK IS JUST THE OPENING ROUND IN A COMPLICATED STRUGGLE

-- FRICTION HAS DEVELOPED BETWEEN REPORTERS AND SOME AIDES

OF SECRETARY,WHO SEEM AS PLEASED WITH TRIP AS IF THEY
HAD MADE A BREAKTHROUGH AND SEEM IRRITATED WITH
THOSE WHO TALK ABOUT COLLAPSE OF NEGOTIATIONS

-- REPORTERS WERE STARTLED TO SEE BREZHNEV IN SUCH
APPARENTLY POOR HEALTH

-- IF POOR HEALTH AFFECTS BREZHNEV,IT COULD WEAKEN OR
SIDELINE THIS KEY SUPPORTER OF AGREEMENTS WITH US,THUS
ADDING DIFFICULTY TO PROGRESS IN ARMS TALKS
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-- EMBASSY STAFF FOCUSED AS MUCH ATTENTION ON TOON'S
TALKS WITH SECRETARY AS KREMLIN TALKS,SINCE TOON HOPED
TO LEARN HIS FATE FROM SECRETARY

-- TOON'SLOYAL AIDES SEE HIS FATE AS INDICATOR OF ;OW
ADMINISTRATION WILL CONDUCT FOREIGN POLICY AND TREAT
THE FOREIGN SERVICE

-- LAST ADMINISTRATION FORCED THIS TOP RANKING SOVIET
EXPERT ON THE SOVIETS

-- AFTER WITHDRAWAL OF NOMINATION TOON HAS BEEN IN LIMBO,
BEEN TEASED BY GROMYKO AND OTHER SOVIET OFFICIALS AND
SUFFERED LOSS OF PRESTIGE

--TOON HAS READ THAT PRESIDENT, INFLUENCED BY HARRIMAN,
IS LOOKING FOR BUSINESSMAN OR PUBLIC FIGURE WHO WOULD
HAVE ACCESS TO BREZHNEV AS HARRIMAN DID TO STALIN.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR

SOUTHERLAND FROM BONN

HEADLINE: VANCE GROMYKO TALKS ASSESSED

LEAD: DISPUTE THE ATTEMPT OF US OFFICIALS TO ACCENTUATE
THE POSITIVE, SECSTATE VANCE IS COMING HOME FROM MOSCOW
WITH ONLY A SHORT LIST OF GENUINE ACCOMPLISHMENTS. THE
LIST OF UNANSWERED QUESTIONS HE CARRIES HOME IS A LONG
ONE

OTHER POINTS

--AIRPORT SENDOFF WAS FRIENDLY, BUT THE BLAND COMMUNIQUE
DID LITTLE TO SUPPORT CONTENTION OF US OFFICIALS THAT
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PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE ON A NUMBER OF ISSUES

--COMMUNIQUE MENTIONED MIDDLE EAST AND OTHER ISSUES
TO BE DISCUSSED IN GENEVA,BUT SAID NOTHING ABOUT SALT

--US OFFICIALS CONSIDERED IT A POSITIVE SIGN THAT SOVS
WERE WILLING TO DISCUSS SALT AGAIN IN ONLY SIX WEEKS
AT VANCE -GROMYKO LEVEL,BUT THEY WERE AT A LOSS TO
EXPLAIN THE SOVIET REJECTION OF BOTH US PROPOSALS,
WHICH SOVIETS THEMSELVES HAD NOT EXPLAINED,EXCEPT TO
SAY US PROPOSALS "INEQUITABLE"

--ALTHOUGH PRESIDENT SAID MARCH 30 HE DID NOT THINK CRUISE
WAS AT HEART OF SOVIET OBJECTIONS,EXPERTS THINK IT MAY BE

--EXPERTS SAY CRUISE RANGE LIMIT MENTIONED BY SECRETARY
IS AROUND 1500 MILES

--SECRETARY'S COMMENTS INDICATED US MIGHT BE AIMING FOR
A FREEZE IN CERTAIN TYPES OF WEAPONS TECHNOLOGY WHERE US
HAS LEAD;IF SO SOVIET OBJECTIONS MIGHT PROVE MORE
UNDERSTANDIBLE

--AS SPECIFIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS OFFICIALS POINTED TO
AGREEMENTS ON WORKING GROUPS AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

--US OFFICIALS INDICATED THAT THERE WAS NO SIGNIFICANT
PROGRESS ON THE MIDDLE EAST OR CURBING US-SOVIET RIVALRY
IN AFRICA

NEW YORK DAILY NEWS

ANTEVIL AND BRALEY

HEADLINE: GROMYKO SEES"TRICK" IN US ARMS PLAN

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LEAD: SOVIET FM GROMYKO CHARGED YESTERDAY IN MOSCOW THAT
US PROPOSALS FOR A NEW NUCLEAR ARMS LIMITATION TREATY WERE
A CHEAP TRICK TO WEAKEN SOVIET SECURITY. SECSTATE VANCE,
SPEAKING IN BONN SAID THE SOVIETS HAD REJECTED " A VERY
FAIR PACKAGE"

OTHER POINTS (TRIP REPORTAGE ONLY)

-- SECRETARY MADE STATEMENT ON FAIRNESS OF US PACKAGE
DURING STOPOVER TO BRIEF SCHMIDT ON "THE FAILURE OF HIS
THREE DAYS OF TALKS IN MOSCOW"

--EN ROUTE TO LONDON,US OFFICIALS SAID THE TALKS HAD BEEN
HELD IN A WARM ATMOSPHERE

--STATE OFFICIALS ABOARD PLANE WERE SAYING BREZHNEV HAD BEEN AFFABLE AS HE READ WEDNESDAY TURN DOWN STATEMENT

--SAME OFFICIALS QUOTED BREZHNEV AS SAYING THERE WAS STILL TIME TO REACH AN AGREEMENT BEFORE THE OCT 3 DEADLINE, AND US NEGOTIATORS SHOULD NOT TAKE A GLOOMY VIEW OF THEIR FIRST ENCOUNTER

-- BREZHNEV LISTED SALT AS GENEVA TOPIC

--DEPT.OFFICIALS ALSO POINTED OUT THAT THE SWEEPING US PROPOSALS FOR THE SHORT THREE DAY MEETING HAD GIVEN THE SOVIETS "A VERY HEAVY OVERLOAD ON THEIR CIRCUITS"

--STATE OFFICIALS ALSO SAID SOVIETS WERE TOLD PROGRESS ON ARMS CONTROL WOULD MAKE CONGRESSIONAL AND PUBLIC APPROVAL FOR INCREASED US SOVIET TRADE EASIER

--THE OFFICIALS DENIED US PROPOSALS WOULD HAVE STRENGTHENED US VIS A VIS SOVIETS BY FREEZING US LEAD IN MISSILE TECHNOLOGY
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WASHINGTON POST--NO MARDER

WALL STREET JOURNAL--NO BACON

HEARST AND LA TIMES NOT AVIALABLE

TELEVISION AND RADIO

NBC - TODAY SHOW

FLOYD KALBER: . . . MEANTIME, THE RUSSIAN LEADERS HAVE GONE TO UNUSUAL LENGTHS TO BLAME THE UNITED STATES FOR THE DEADLOCK IN THE ARMS TALKS. RICHARD VALERIANI REPORTS ON THAT STORY FROM LONDON.

VALERIANI: VANCE'S DEPARTURE WAS MARKED BY HANDSHAKES AND SMILES AND SOCIABLE CHITCHAT AS HE AND GROMYKO SAID GOODBYE UNTIL MAY. BUT ONLY SIX HOURS LATER, THE MOOD WAS DIFFERENT AS GROMYKO CALLED A NEWS CONFERENCE TO ACCUSE THE UNITED STATES OF TRYING TO GAIN A ONE-SIDED MILITARY ADVANTAGE WITH ITS LATEST ARMS CONTROL PROPOSALS. GROMYKO HAS BEEN FOREIGN MINISTER FOR TWENTY YEARS, BUT THIS WAS THE FIRST NEWS CONFERENCE HE HAS EVER HELD FOR FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS IN MOSCOW. AND THAT, IN ITSELF, WAS AN INDICATION OF HOW CONCERNED THE RUSSIANS ARE ABOUT THE DEADLOCK IN THE NEGOTIATIONS.

VANCE STOPPED OFF IN BONN AFTER LEAVING MOSCOW, AND HE TOO HELD A NEWS CONFERENCE. HE MAINTAINED THE DEAL HE

HAD OFFERED WAS FAIR IN TRYING TO BALANCE THE NUCLEAR
PUNCH ON BOTH SIDES.

(SECRETARY QUOTED DEFENDING FAIRNESS OF CRUISE-BACKFIRE
TRADE-OFF)

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VALERIANI: HERE IN LONDON VANCE RESTATED HIS VIEW THAT
THE AMERICAN PACKAGE WAS FAIR AND BALANCED. HIS AIDES
TOOK GROMYKO'S NEWS CONFERENCE AS A POSITIVE SIGN. THEY
SAID IT INDICATES SOVIET WILLINGNESS TO GET ON WITH THE
TALKS. END NBC.

CBS - RADIO

BERNARD KALB FROM LONDON: DETENTE HAS BEEN SHAKEN UP,
NOT KNOCKED OFF THE PEDESTAL THAT BOTH THE AMERICANS AND
THE RUSSIANS OCCASIONALLY DO HOMAGE TO, BUT SHAKEN UP
BY THE FAILURE OF THE MOSCOW NEGOTIATIONS. EXACTLY WHAT
HAPPENED DURING THE TALKS ON ARMS CONTROL IS STILL
CLASSIFIED TOP SECRET, BUT IT'S CLEAR THAT THERE WAS A
HEAD-ON COLLISION. THE AMERICANS OFFERED THEIR TWO
PROPOSALS. THEY WERE TOUGH, BUT THE AMERICANS REGARDED
THEM AS OPENING POSITIONS. THE AMERICANS WERE READY TO
BARGAIN. THE RUSSIANS FOUND THE PROPOSALS SO OUTRAGEOUS
THAT THEY REJECTED THEM WITHOUT EVEN TRYING TO OFFER

COUNTER-PROPOSALS. THE REJECTION WAS SO BLUNT THAT IT
TOOK THE VANCE DELEGATION ABACK, AND NOW, SOVIET FOREIGN
MINISTER GROMYKO HAD GONE PUBLIC, ACCUSING THE UNITED
STATES OF SEEKING ONE-SIDED ADVANTAGES, BUT STILL
EXPRESSING HOPE THAT THE TWO SIDES WILL REACH AN ARMS
AGREEMENT IN THE NEAR FUTURE; VANCE REACTING IN LONDON,
SAYING THAT THE U.S. PROPOSALS ARE NOT ONE-SIDED. THE
TWO MEN ARE SCHEDULED TO RESUME THEIR TALKS IN MAY IN
GENEVA. END CBS.

ABC -- NO DUNSMORE.

WIRES

UPI

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DANILOFF FROM PARIS

LEAD: SECSTATE CYRUS VANCE WARNED TODAY THAT SOVIET
FONMIN GROMYKO HAS "THREATENED TO CHANGE THE WHOLE BASIS" OF

THE STRATEGIC ARMS LIMITATION TALKS BY RAISING THE QUESTION
OF A BAN ON US FORWARD BASES IN EUROPE AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

OTHER POINTS REPORTEDLY MADE BY THE SECRETARY:

--INCLUSION OF FORWARD BASED SYSTEMS WOULD BE A TOTAL
CHANGE FROM THE PAST

--THE SECRETARY REPLIED TO BREZHNEV'S CHALLENGE IN MUCH
THE SAME TERMS AS HE WAS USING WITH REPORTERS

--THE US PROPOSAL WOULD LEAVE THE US WITH A SLIGHT
IN NUMBERS OF WARHEADS BUT WOULD LEAVE THE SOVIETS
A SLIGHT ADVANTAGE IN THROW WEIGHT

--THE US HAD SOFTENED ITS POSITION ON RESTRAINING BACKFIRE

--THE US PROPOSAL WOULD FREEZE QUALITATIVE IMPROVEMENTS,
WHICH IS TERRIBLY IMPORTANT

DANILOFF ADDS THAT IN LONDON THE SECRETARY PLEDGED ANEW
FULL US SUPPORT FOR UK RHODESIA PEACE EFFORTS. EARLIER
DANILOFF HAD MORE DETAILS ON LONDON TALKS, MAINLY
FROM BRITISH SPOKESMAN'S BRIEFINGS

AP

NO BYLINE FROM PARIS

LEAD: SECSTATE VANCE SAID THE ENTIRE STRATEGIC ARMS
PROCESS COULD BE THREATENED BY THE SOVIET UNION RAISING
THE ISSUE OF AMERICAN BASES IN EUROPE
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OTHER POINTS REPORTEDLY MADE BY THE SECRETARY

--IF SOVIETS SHOULD RAISE SALT-BASES LINK IT COULD
CHANGE THE ENTIRE BASIS OF SALT

-US BASE SYSTEM IN EUROPE HAS NEVER BEEN INCLUDED IN SALT

--BREZHNEV RAISED ISSUE OF BASES AS WELL AS IRBM'S IN
EUROPE, ON WEDNESDAY

--SECRETARY TOLD BREZHNEV HE DID NOT ACCEPT THESE SUBJECTS
FOR SALT DISCUSSION

-- US PROPOSED REDUCTION IN HEAVY ROCKETS WOULD LESSEN
A SOVIET ADVANTAGE IN THAT AREA, BUT AT SAME TIME US
SOUGHT TO BALANCE THAT BY LESSENING ITS OWN WARHEAD
ARSENAL
CHRISTOPHER

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